(c) whether it is also a fact that out of 58000 cases filed under the provisions of the Dowry Prevention law 25000 were found fake;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a website 498.org. has also been established to make a case against the provision; and

(e) what steps Government are contemplating to make the law more balanced and effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Section 498A is a section of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and not the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. Government has received a couple of representations from the Indians residing in foreign countries against alleged misuse of Section 498A of IPC by their wives etc. However, information in respect of complaints received from NRIs is not compiled separately.

(c) As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, the number of cases reported under the Dowry Prohibition Act during the year 2005 were 3204, whereas, 3592 cases were reported during 2004. However, no separate information is available about the cases found fake out of the above.

(d) As per information provided by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, there is an NGO in San Francisco named 'Rakshak' which has established a website *http://www. 498.org.* and *http://rakshak.info.* for highlighting the problems of NRIs.

(e) The Government has been receiving representations from various quarters for amending Section 498A of the IPC. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003 had, *inter alia*, a proposal to make Section 498A of the IPC compoundable, but the same was dropped by the Government on the request of women's organizations, to retain the effectiveness of this legal provision.

Foreign refugees living in country

1769. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign refugees living in various parts of our country and their socio-economic impact in the country;

(b) whether Government has any concrete policy in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) how are other countries dealing with foreign refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e), As per the readily available information, 1,83,920 foreign refugees are registered in India as on 31st December, 2006. Government of India did not sign 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees and 1967 Protocol thereon because it does not adequately address the situation faced by the developing countries. The convention also does not provide for a proper balance

between rights and obligations of receiving and source States. However a draft model law on refugee was prepared by Justice P.N. Bhagwati. The draft model law, *inter-alia* defines, persons who will be refugees, who will not be refugees, procedure for refugees status determination and rights and duties of refugees. Action has been initiated to examine the said draft keeping in view the existing domestic laws and national security considerations. Different countries have adopted their own approaches based on their national considerations.

Commando team to uproot Naxalism

†1770. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are preparing a special commando team to uproot Naxalism;

(b) by when the commando teams will be deployed in the affected areas;

(c) whether Government will also provide them helicopters and all other facilities for their success; and

(d) under whom these commando teams will operate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Law and order being a State subject, dealing with the various issues related to naxalite violence in a State lies in the domain of the concerned State Government. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts and resources of the State Governments through a variety of measures, including deployment of Central Para Military Forces which work under the command of the State Governments concerned, strengthening of the local Police and Intelligence agencies through the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces, provision of financial assistance through the Scheme of Security Related Expenditure, sharing of Intelligence and bringing about inter-State coordination.

(d) Various States have raised their own specialized forces for anti-naxalite operations, which function under the control of the State Governments concerned.

Heinous crimes

†1771. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of heinous crimes like murder, robbery, dacoity, rape, abduction etc. in the different States in the country during the year, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007 till date;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.